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*With all the recent headlines about panels and tires falling off planes, is flying safe?*

A door plug area of an Alaska Airlines Boeing 737 Max 9, with paneling removed, is shown prior to inspection at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, Jan. 10, 2024, in SeaTac, Wash.

Associated Press  
Page 3

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK** PROFESSIONAL COMPLIMENTARY PICTURES ON TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

|   |   |  |  |   |  |   |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|---|
| <b>SUNDAY:</b><br>MARRYBELL MADURO<br>SINGER<br>6:30 - 8:30pm | <b>MONDAY:</b><br>ANGELA FLORES<br>VIOLINIST<br>6:30 - 8:30pm | <b>TUESDAY:</b><br>JEAN PAUL<br>SAXOPHONIST<br>6:30 - 8:30pm | <b>WEDNESDAY:</b><br>EDDIE KROON<br>SINGER 4:00 - 6:00pm<br>MAILLEYN ALVARADO<br>VIOLINIST 6:30 - 8:30pm<br>KARAOKE 9:00 - 11:00pm | <b>THURSDAY:</b><br>MARRYBELL MADURO<br>SINGER<br>6:30 - 8:30pm | <b>FRIDAY:</b><br>RICKY THOMAS<br>GUITARIST<br>7:00 - 9:00pm | <b>SATURDAY:</b><br>EDDIE KROON<br>SINGER<br>4:00 - 6:00pm<br>ANGELA FLORES<br>VIOLINIST<br>6:30 - 8:30pm |
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# Arrests for illegal border crossings nudge up in February but still among lowest of Biden presidency

By **REBECCA SANTANA**  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The number of arrests for illegally crossing the U.S. southern border with Mexico nudged upward February over the previous month. But at a time when immigration is increasingly a concern for voters, the numbers were still among the lowest of Joe Biden's presidency. According to figures from Customs and Border Protection, Border Patrol agents made 140,644 arrests of people attempting to enter the country between the legal border crossing points during February.



**Border Patrol agents ask asylum-seeking migrants to line up in a makeshift, mountainous campsite after the group crossed the border with Mexico, Feb. 2, 2024, near Jacumba Hot Springs, Calif.**

Associated Press

The figures are part of a

range of data related to immigration, trade and fentanyl seizures that is re-

leased monthly by CBP. The immigration-related figures are a closely watched

metric at a time of intense political scrutiny over who is entering the country and whether the Biden administration has a handle on the issue.

Republicans, led by former President Donald Trump, the presumptive Republican nominee for president, have charged that Biden's policies have encouraged migrants to attempt to come to the U.S. and that the border is out of control. The Biden administration counters by saying Republicans failed to work with Democrats to fund a key border security bill and arguing that what is happening on the southern border is part of a worldwide phenomenon of more people fleeing their homes to seek safety.

The numbers come after a December that saw the Border Patrol tally 249,785 arrests — a record high that increased tensions over im-

migration — before plunging in January.

Officials have credited enforcement efforts by Mexico as well as seasonal fluctuations that affect when and where migrants attempt to cross the border for the drop from December to January and February. Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said during a Feb. 29 trip to Brownsville, Texas, with Biden that the "primary reason is the enhanced enforcement efforts on the part of the Mexican government." But he said encounters remained up in Arizona in part because Sonora, which is the Mexican state directly south of Arizona, is difficult to patrol. In February, the Tucson sector in Arizona was by far the busiest region for migrant crossings between the ports of entry, followed by San Diego and El Paso, Texas. □



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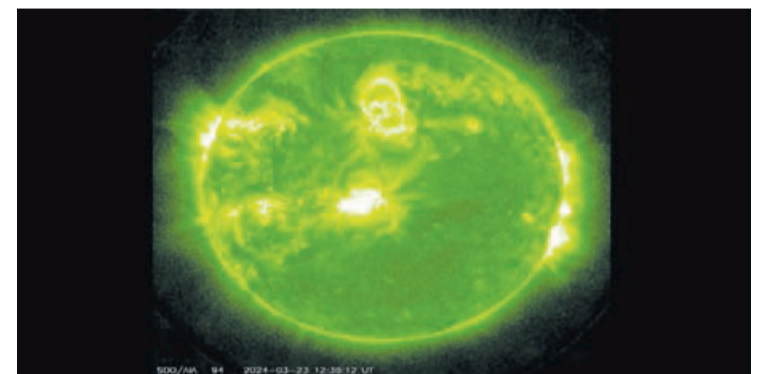


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## Geomagnetic storm from a solar flare could disrupt radio communications and create a striking aurora



This image provided by NASA shows the Sun seen from the Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO) satellite on Saturday, March 23, 2024.

Associated Press

**BOULDER, Colo. (AP)** — Space weather forecasters have issued a geomagnetic storm watch through Monday, saying an outburst of plasma from a solar flare could interfere with radio transmissions on Earth. It could also make for great aurora viewing.

There's no reason for the public to be concerned, according to the alert issued Saturday by NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center in Boulder, Colorado.

The storm could interrupt high-frequency radio transmissions, such as by aircraft trying to communicate with distant traffic control towers. Most commercial aircraft can use satellite transmission as backup, said Jonathan Lash, a forecaster at the center. Satellite operators might have trouble tracking their spacecraft, and power grids could also see some "induced current" in their lines, though nothing they can't handle, he said. □

# With all the recent headlines about panels and tires falling off planes, is flying safe?

From Front

By **DAVID KOENIG**  
AP Airlines Writer

**DALLAS (AP)** — It has been 15 years since the last fatal crash of a U.S. airliner, but you would never know that by reading about a torrent of flight problems in the last three months.

There was a time when things like cracked windshields and minor engine problems didn't turn up very often in the news.

That changed in January, when a panel plugging the space reserved for an unused emergency door blew off an Alaska Airlines jetliner 16,000 feet above Oregon. Pilots landed the Boeing 737 Max safely, but in the United States, media coverage of the flight quickly overshadowed a deadly runway crash in Tokyo three days earlier.

And concern about air safety — especially with Boeing planes — has not let up.

## IS FLYING GETTING MORE DANGEROUS?

By the simplest measurement, the answer is no. The last deadly crash involving a U.S. airliner occurred in February 2009, an unprecedented streak of safety. There were 9.6 million flights last year.

The lack of fatal crashes does not fully capture the state of safety, however. In the past 15 months, a spate of close calls caught the attention of regulators and travelers.

Another measure is the number of times pilots broadcast an emergency call to air traffic controllers. Flightradar24, a popular tracking site, just compiled the numbers. The site's data show such calls rising since mid-January but remaining below levels seen during much of 2023.

Emergency calls also are an imperfect gauge: the plane might not have been in immediate danger, and sometimes planes in trouble never alert controllers.

## SAFER THAN DRIVING

The National Safety Council estimates that Americans



A door plug area of an Alaska Airlines Boeing 737 Max 9, with paneling removed, is shown prior to inspection at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, Jan. 10, 2024, in SeaTac, Wash.

Associated Press

have a 1-in-93 chance of dying in a motor-vehicle crash, while deaths on airplanes are too rare to calculate the odds. Figures from the U.S. Department of Transportation tell a similar story.

"This is the safest form of transportation ever created, whereas every day on the nation's roads about a 737 full of people dies," Richard Aboulafia, a long-time aerospace analyst and consultant, said. The safety council estimates that more than 44,000 people died in U.S. vehicle crashes in 2023.

## BUT A SHRINKING SAFETY MARGIN

A panel of experts reported in November that a shortage of air traffic controllers, outdated plane-tracking technology and other problems presented a growing threat to safety in the sky.

"The current erosion in the margin of safety in the (national airspace system) caused by the confluence of these challenges is rendering the current level of safety unsustainable," the group said in a 52-page report.

## WHAT IS GOING ON AT BOEING?

Many but not all of the recent incidents have involved Boeing planes.

Boeing is a \$78 billion company, a leading U.S. exporter and a century-old, iconic name in aircraft manufacturing. It is one-half of the duopoly, along with Europe's Airbus, that dominates the production of large passenger jets.

The company's reputation, however, was greatly damaged by the crashes of two 737 Max jets — one in Indonesia in 2018, the other in Ethiopia the following year — that killed 346 people. Boeing has lost nearly \$24 billion in the last five years. It has struggled with manufacturing flaws that at times delayed deliveries of 737s and long-haul 787 Dreamliners.

Boeing finally was beginning to regain its stride until the Alaska Airlines Max blowout. Investigators have focused on bolts that help secure the door-plug panel, but which were missing after a repair job at the Boeing factory.

The FBI is notifying passengers about a criminal investigation. The Federal Aviation Administration is stepping up oversight of the company.

"What is going on with the production at Boeing? There have been issues in the past. They don't seem to be getting resolved," FAA Administrator Mike

Whitaker said last month.

CEO David Calhoun says no matter what conclusions investigators reach about the Alaska Airlines blowout, "Boeing is accountable for what happened" on the Alaska plane. "We caused the problem and we understand that."

## WHERE DO DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING FIT IN?

Problems attributed to an airplane manufacturer can differ greatly.

Some are design errors. On the original Boeing Max, the failure of a single sensor caused a flight-control system to point the nose of the plane down with great force — that happened before the deadly 2018 and 2019 Max crashes. It is a maxim in aviation that the failure of a single part should never be enough to bring down a plane.

In other cases, such as the door-plug panel that flew off the Alaska Airlines jet, it appears a mistake was made on the factory floor.

"Anything that results in death is worse, but design is a lot harder to deal with because you have to locate the problem and fix it," said Aboulafia, the aerospace analyst. "In the manufacturing process, the fix is incredibly easy — don't do" whatever caused the flaw in the first place.

Manufacturing quality appears to be an issue in other incidents too.

Earlier this month, the FAA proposed ordering airlines to inspect wiring bundles around the spoilers on Max jets. The order was prompted by a report that chafing of electrical wires due to faulty installation caused an airliner to roll 30 degrees in less than a second on a 2021 flight.

Even little things matter. After a LATAM Airlines Boeing 787 flying from Australia to New Zealand this month went into a nosedive — it recovered — Boeing reminded airlines to inspect switches to motors that move pilot seats. Published reports said a flight attendant accidentally hitting the switch likely caused the plunge.

## NOT EVERYTHING IS BOEING'S FAULT

Investigations into some incidents point to likely lapses in maintenance, and many close calls are due to errors by pilots or air traffic controllers.

This week, investigators disclosed that an American Airlines jet that overshot a runway in Texas had undergone a brake-replacement job four days earlier, and some hydraulic lines to the brakes were not properly reattached.

Earlier this month, a tire fell off a United Airlines Boeing 777 leaving San Francisco, and an American Airlines 777 made an emergency landing in Los Angeles with a flat tire.

A piece of the aluminum skin was discovered missing when a United Boeing 737 landed in Oregon last week. Unlike the brand-new Alaska jet that suffered the panel blowout, the United plane was 26 years old. Maintenance is up to the airline.

When a FedEx cargo plane landing last year in Austin, Texas, flew close over the top of a departing Southwest Airlines jet, it turned out that an air traffic controller had cleared both planes to use the same runway. □

# Hardy souls across New England and New York dig out after major winter storm



A snowplow removes the snow on Maple Street in Brattleboro, Vt., while the snow falls on Saturday, March 23, 2024.

Associated Press

By **STEVE LeBLANC**  
Associated Press

**BOSTON (AP)** — Thousands of hardy souls across New England spent Sunday digging out after a major weekend storm dumped more than two feet of snow in some areas, caused multiple road accidents, downed power lines and left hundreds of thousands across the Northeast in the dark, some perhaps for days. Heavy snowfall from the storm stretched across the region, including upstate and northern New York through Vermont, New Hampshire, and most of Maine. Many areas saw totals of 8 inches to 12 inches (20 to 30 centimeters) of snow, and some of the highest totals exceeded 30 inches (76 centimeters) in south central Vermont, said Zack Taylor, a meteorologist for the National Weather Service.

"So overall, it was a pretty significant winter storm and for some areas that was some of the most snow they've seen all winter with a single storm," Taylor said. The combination of sleet, freezing rain and heavy wet snow took down trees and power lines and was blamed for hundreds of delayed and canceled flights. In New York City, floodwaters snarled subway

service, closed part of the Cross Island Parkway and trapped motorists on flooded roads through Central Park, where more than 3.5 inches (9 centimeters) of rain fell. On Fifth Avenue, a giant tree fell down over several cars, prompting a road closure.

In Lodi, New Jersey, flooding from the Saddle River inundated nearby roads. Central Maine Power, the state's largest utility, said crews began clearing damage and fixing downed lines Sunday — but that it anticipated a multi-day effort in areas hit hardest by the storm. By late Sunday, about 170,000 customers were without power in Maine.

"Damage to trees, poles, and wires was significant overnight on Saturday, and our assessors are taking stock of the damage today so we can begin restoring power to our customers as quickly and as safely as possible," said Jon Breed, from Central Maine Power. Another 54,000 customers were without power in New Hampshire. In New York, more than 57,000 customers were without power late Sunday, down from more than 90,000 earlier in the day.

Areas north of New York City were among the hard-

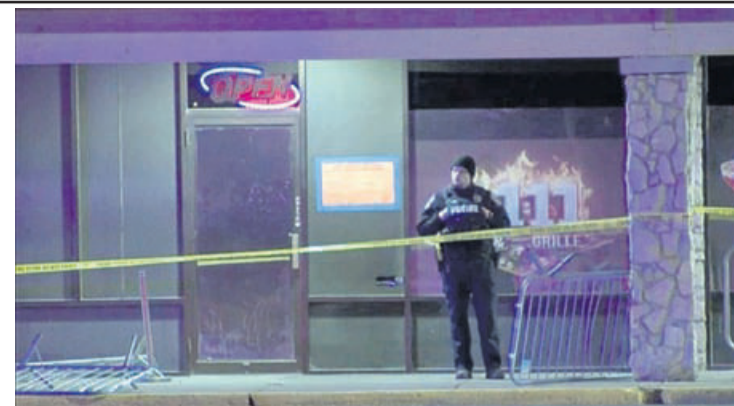
est hit, according to online maps from National Grid and PowerOutage.us, a power outage tracking website. The combination of sleet, freezing rain, and heavy wet snow that took down trees and power lines was also blamed for hundreds of delayed and canceled flights at area airports. Police across the Northeast reported hundreds of traffic accidents as cars spun out and drivers grappled with icy roads, while Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Philadelphia and Boston also saw heavy rain and flooding.

In Portland, Maine, city officials opened a warming center at the East End Community School for residents without power who needed a warm place to visit, charge electronics or sleep overnight from Sunday evening to Monday morning.

The New Hampshire Department of Safety announced Sunday it had activated an emergency operations center to help local communities clean up from the storm, including those with significant power outages.

Fans of cold weather — including skiers — reveled in the snow.

Kevin Bell, vice president of marketing for Loon Moun-



A police officer stands outside a bar after a shooting early Sunday, March 24, 2024 in Indianapolis.

Associated Press

## 1 person killed and 5 wounded including a police officer in an Indianapolis shooting, police say

**INDIANAPOLIS (AP)** — One person was killed and five others including a police officer were wounded during an early morning shooting Sunday in Indianapolis, police said.

Two Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department officers in full uniform were working in off-duty employment at a bar in the 9400 block on East Washington Street when a disturbance erupted in the parking lot around 1:30 a.m., Chief Christopher Bailey said during a news conference. Both officers exchanged gunfire with at least one suspect and one officer was shot in the upper thigh and sustained an additional shoulder injury that may have occurred when he fell after being shot, according to Bailey, who said the officer was in stable condition and expected to be released from a hospital on Sunday.

Additional officers re-

sponded and found four other people in the parking lot who had been shot. All were transported to nearby hospitals with non-life-threatening injuries. The victims included two 45-year-old men, a 42-year-old man and a 33-year-old woman, Bailey said.

A short time later a man arrived at Community East Hospital in Indianapolis with injuries consistent with gunshot wounds and died despite treatment from the medical staff. Detectives believe he was connected to the shooting. The Marion County Coroner's Office will release his name after next of kin have been notified, Bailey said.

One gun was found in the parking lot, according to Bailey, who added that investigators did not immediately know what caused the initial disturbance in the parking lot but were interviewing witnesses and reviewing videotape. □

tain in New Hampshire's White Mountains, said the more snow New England gets, the better it is for ski resorts operating in the late season.

Taylor said another significant winter storm is developing in the West and will continue through Monday across much of the Rockies, the Plains and the upper Midwest. The National Weather Service warned of heavy snow and blizzard

conditions for the northern Plains and Upper Midwest persisting to Tuesday.

That system is expected to bring heavy snowfall across portions of Wisconsin, Minnesota, much of the Dakotas and even down into Nebraska and western Kansas with the potential of 8 to 12 inches of snow, with higher amounts across the eastern Dakotas and portions of central Minnesota, Taylor said. □

# Some of nearly 300 abducted schoolchildren in Nigeria's north are freed after weeks in captivity

By CHINEDU ASADU  
Associated Press

**KADUNA, Nigeria (AP) —**

At least 137 of nearly 300 Nigerian children abducted more than two weeks ago from their school in the northwestern state of Kaduna were released on Sunday, the West African nation's military said.

An earlier statement from the government suggested that all the students were freed.

Motorcycle-riding gunmen invaded the Kuriga school on March 7 and marched the children into the forests before security forces could arrive, as terrified families watched helplessly. School authorities said a total of 287 students were kidnapped during the attack, at least 100 of them are aged 12 or younger.

At least 1,400 students have been kidnapped from Nigerian schools since 2014, when Boko Haram militants seized hundreds of schoolgirls from Borno state's Chibok village. In recent years, abductions have been concentrated in the country's northwestern and central regions, where dozens of armed groups often target villagers and travelers for ransom.

The 137 children were rescued in Zamfara state, an enclave notorious for kidnappings more than 200



Kaduna state governor Uba Sani, centre, gestures after a meeting with security officers in Kaduna, Nigeria, Sunday, March 24, 2024.

kilometers (124 miles) away from their school, Nigerian military spokesman Maj. Gen. Edward Buba said in a statement.

Pictures released by the Nigerian military showed the children looking worn out as they were covered in dust, still wearing their blue-white-and-brown uniforms while being transported following their release. Kuriga town leaders joined other government officials in waiting for their arrival at the Kaduna State Govern-

ment House.

"Efforts would continue until other hostages are found and the terrorists arrested, tried, and brought to justice by Nigerian law," Maj. Gen. Buba said.

At least 17 other schoolchildren in northern Sokoto state were also rescued two weeks after they were taken hostage, according to a statement issued Saturday by the Sokoto state government.

Kaduna state Gov. Uba Sani, who first announced

the rescue, did not give details about the operation. His office could not be reached Sunday to clarify the discrepancy in the number of those freed. The Associated Press could not reach villagers in Kuriga town, where mobile network is not available.

Under growing pressure to end the mass kidnappings in northern Nigeria, President Bola Tinubu promised his administration is "deploying detailed strategies to ensure that our schools

remain safe sanctuaries of learning, not lairs for wanton abductions."

Tinubu had vowed to rescue the children "without paying a dime" as ransom. But ransoms are commonly paid for kidnappings, often arranged by families, and it is rare for officials in Nigeria to admit to the payments.

No group has claimed responsibility for the Kaduna kidnapping, which locals have blamed on bandit groups known for mass killings and kidnappings for ransom in the conflict-battered northern region, most of them former herders in conflict with settled communities.

At least two people with extensive knowledge of the security crisis in Nigeria's northwest told AP that the identity of the abductors is known.

Murtala Ahmed Rufa'i, a professor of peace and conflict studies at Usmanu Danfodiyo University, and Sheikh Ahmad Gumi, a cleric who has negotiated with the bandits, said they were hiding in the region's vast and ungoverned forests.

Arrests are rare in Nigeria's mass kidnappings, as victims are usually released only after desperate families pay ransoms or through deals with government and security officials. □

Associated Press

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Associated Press

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"Efforts would continue until other hostages are found and the terrorists arrested, tried, and brought to justice by Nigerian law," Maj. Gen. Buba said. □

# Brazilian police arrest suspected masterminds behind the killing of councilwoman-turned-icon

By **GABRIELA SÁ PESSOA** and **DAVID BILLER**

**Associated Press**

**RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)** — Brazil's federal police Sunday arrested two men suspected of ordering the killing of a popular Rio de Janeiro councilwoman in 2018, a long-awaited step after years of society clamoring for justice.

The assassination of Marielle Franco, a 38-year-old Black, bisexual city councilwoman in a drive-by shooting, shook Brazil profoundly and reverberated across the world.

Police investigations showed federal deputy Chiquinho Brazão and his brother Domingos Brazão, a member of Rio state's accounts watchdog, were detained on suspicion of ordering a hit against Franco. Both have alleged connections to criminal groups, known as militias, who illegally charge residents for various services, including protection. Ubiratan Guedes, the lawyer representing Domingos Brazão, denied the accusations against his client. "He did not know Marielle, had no connection with Marielle," he told reporters on Sunday.

Lawyers for Chiquinho Brazão, who served on Rio's council at the same time as Franco and is now a congressman, and former police chief Rivaldo Barbosa, said their clients denied any wrongdoing, according to local media. Brazil's Justice Minister Ricardo Lewandowski said in a press conference that the motiva-



In this Jan. 9, 2018 file photo, Rio de Janeiro Councilwoman Marielle Franco smiles for a photo in Cinelandia square.

tion for the crime is "complex because that group (the Brazãos) has multiple interests." He said investigations have suggested lawmaker Chiquinho Brazão was especially upset about a bill that his then-colleague Franco sponsored at the city council about regulation of land to build public housing in Rio. "At this moment we have it very clear who are the perpetrators of this hateful, heinous crime of political nature," said the minister, who added that four other people had documents seized. Among them, he said, is a police detective who also investigated the case, Giniton Lages. Lewandowski also said

the men jailed earlier will be transferred from Rio to the capital Brasilia.

The arrests of the men who allegedly ordered Franco's killing came four days after Brazil's Supreme Court validated a plea bargain for the shooter, who was arrested along with the driver in 2019. The investigation into Franco's murder had been troubled for years. Rio's state civil police couldn't break the case after the arrest and indictment of the shooter and the driver. The lead detectives were changed four times prior to February 2023. Federal authorities then attempted to take control of the case, but were not allowed to, which

also increased suspicions of obstruction, according to Lewandowski. The driver admitted to the double murder of Franco and her driver. The shooter, disgraced former police officer Ronnie Lessa, signed a plea bargain deal with authorities in January and his admission led to Sunday's arrests. Barbosa, the head of Rio's police when the murder took place, was also arrested for alleged obstruction of the investigation, federal police chief Andrei Rodrigues said in a press conference. "He actively sought to detour the investigation from those who ordered the killing," Rodrigues said. Earlier, Franco's widow Monica Benicio

said Barbosa offered her his sympathies after her wife was slain, promising to be tough in his efforts to find the killers. Franco worked as an assistant to then-state lawmaker Marcelo Freixo in 2008, as he presided over a special committee investigating militias in Rio's state assembly. Freixo's final report indicted 226 suspected militia members and politicians and government employees, including Domingos Brazão. While Brazão was mentioned in the report, he wasn't indicted.

Political violence isn't uncommon in Rio, and such killings are often linked to territorial and political disputes. But they typically go unsolved and never elicit the same level of outcry as Franco's death did. She had been a rising political star, making her name by exposing police abuse and violence against residents of working-class neighborhoods known as favelas. Known universally by her first name, Franco grew up in a favela herself — the Mare neighborhood near Rio's international airport. She became a human rights activist there after her friend was killed by a stray bullet in a shootout between police and drug traffickers. She worked for Freixo investigating organized crime then went on to win a seat on Rio's city council in 2016. She kept receiving and sharing complaints of police abuse until just days before she was killed. □

**Associated Press**



A man places flowers at a spontaneous memorial in memory of the victims of Moscow attack in St. Petersburg, Russia, Saturday, March 23, 2024.

**Associated Press**

**MOSCOW (AP)** — The Russian Football Union said

## Russia's soccer friendly against Paraguay put off indefinitely due to Moscow terrorist attack

Saturday that its team's friendly against Paraguay scheduled for Moscow on Monday has been put off indefinitely due to the terrorist attack near the capital.

At least 133 people were killed after gunmen opened fire with automatic weapons in a suburban concert hall near Moscow on Friday. The Islamic State

group has claimed responsibility.

Officials said the match originally scheduled for Moscow's VTB Arena would be played at a later date. Russia has been banned from FIFA and UEFA competitions following the country's invasion of Ukraine two years ago. It can only play friendlies.

"The Russian Football Union,

together with the entire country, mourns those killed in the terrible terrorist attack at Crocus City Hall," RFU president Alexander Dyukov said. "In the current situation, together with our colleagues from Paraguay, we have decided not to hold a match between our teams and will organize it at a later date." □

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## Exploring the Mainstreet of San Nicolas

**SAN NICOLAS— At Just 11 miles southeast from Oranjestad you will enter the city San Nicolas, also known as Sunrise City or Chocolate City. A city that is rich in authentic culture and island charm. San Nicolas is Aruba's second largest city and was once a bustling company town dominated by the oil industry since the early 1930's.**

Over the course of four decades, its demographics had changed immensely due to a stream of Afro-Caribbean and South American workers who came to fill the jobs in the oil refinery between the 1920's until the 1960's. To this day traces of the multicultural influences in culinary offerings and customs, housing and population are clearly

visible in San Nicolas - more than anywhere else on the island.

### Flow of history

if you are looking for history San Nicolas has it. Here you will find three amazing museums, The Museum of Industry, the Community Museum and the Carnival Euphoria, all within walking distance from one another. The Museum of Industry is situated in the Water Tower in San Nicolas and narrates Aruba's industrial history which began in the 19th century. Here you will learn about gold, aloe, phosphate, oil and the tourism industries which made San Nicolas once a bustling business center. Experience the touching stories of those who were part of this history. Nicolaas Store built in 1940

and renovated in 2014 is the home of the Community Museum. The collection is remarkable and spans millennia. Ancient fossils stand next to tableaus of an authentically recreated colonial kitchen and bedroom and 19th-century barber-shop, just to name a few of the items of old-time Aruba that has been preserved. A collection of artifacts and other objects of artistic, cultural, historical, or scientific importance can be found here for the purpose of education or enjoyment. Carnival Euphoria is showcasing Aruba's Carnival. See how are Carnival has developed over the past 65 years.

### The new San Nicolas

In the shadow of the refinery, an art capital is quietly

beginning to grow. This is the new San Nicolas, a place that is starting to become a magnet for all that is young, cool and hip in Aruba. Indeed, San Nicolas has all of the ingredients of an emerging cultural hub — varied history, interesting architecture, and, perhaps most importantly, an urban layout that makes it walkable. As you walk around, the streets are silent but the walls are loud, filled with bright, colorful murals painted by a collection of artists from around the world. Thanks to the efforts of various art organizations in Aruba, such as Art Rules Aruba and Aruba Art Fair, San Nicolas has had quite the aesthetic makeover with regards to vibrant street art. Each year more and more stunning murals

are replacing broken down buildings with colorful art pieces that keep brightening up SunriseCity.

### Must See, Do, Buy & Eat

A little bit of everything can be found in the main street. Stores selling shoes, clothing, jewelry you name it. Arts & crafts by Cosecha store & Creative Center, a design store in which you can immerse yourself in discovering genuine and locally made arts and crafts which reflect the diversification of the Aruban craft heritage and the artistic supply of artisans. Don't miss out on trying the exquisite food offered by the cafes and restaurants or just enjoy a peaceful walk admiring the murals, mosaic benches and all the history San Nicolas has to offer. □

## The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors on the island

Recently, Ms. Marouska Heyliger had the great pleasure to honor a Loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba as Goodwill Ambassadors at their home away from home.

The honorees:  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard and Cecelia Getchell

The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20-35 and more consecutive years.

Ms. Marouska Heyliger thanked them for choos-



ing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years together with the members of Bar-

celo resort  
Top reason for returning provided by the honorees were:

Beautiful beaches, beautiful weather and the friendliness of the people. □



**CARNAVAL ENTERTAINMENT ON TUESDAYS**

**7PM Steelpan**      **8PM Carnaval Show**      **8:30PM Carnaval themed watershow**

*Paseo Herencia*  
**Shopping, Dining & Entertainment Center**  
 Located in Palm Beach high rise area, across the Holiday Inn Hotel

## Rhythms Circus Company Aruba: putting Aruba's name on the world stage



**Rhythms Circus Company Aruba is a talented group of young people working daily to present their art in the form of acrobatics, dancing, acting and singing. After an impactful participation in one of America's biggest talent shows, they are now bringing their amazing talent to Aruba!**

In a show full of light, music, and with performances to famous musical figures like Elvis Presley, Michael Jackson and Tina Turner, the group consisting of 15 people from various countries delights the audience with their artistic prowess at the Paseo Herencia Mall, every Wednesday and Friday starting at 7pm. Each day has a different show, so you can attend both nights for the complete experience!

RCCA also offers the possibility for you and your family to enjoy dinner before the show! Starting from 6pm, you and your family can delight from the wide-ranged menu that includes a variation of delicious main course meals complete with a delectable flan dessert as a sweet treat. Enjoy your dinner even more at a VIP table complete with comfort seating!

The group, under the leadership of directors and creators Diego Jaramillo and Yamila Hernandez are opening the doors to the ballroom to our local audience as well as our visitors so that everyone can have the privilege of experiencing this wonderful show.

Hernandez explained that the idea for this project started in 2010 when she came to work in Aruba. After being on the island for a while she decided to stay and live here, and she met Diego Jaramillo, who is currently her partner. Together they came with the idea to establish a company together with other professional artists, with the goal of living from their art.

Hernandez says that the work is hard – all of the performers are professional artists, and while the production of the show is not a challenge for them, selling the idea proved difficult since at the time, there weren't any shows of its kind on the island.

### America's Got Talent

Currently they are offering a show with music, choreography and at the end, they have

a shocking acrobatics ending, one that was seen by thousands of people around the world when the group travelled to Los Angeles in the United States to represent Aruba in America's Got Talent. Hernandez said that the show was very important for them to meet the public present because people could experience this performance live and right before their eyes.

Their presentation in America's Got Talent "was incredible" and they were able to meet the jury and many other artists staying there for three months. But the exhaustion and physical toll was so great that Diego suffered an accident, and because of this, they had to cancel all future commitments.

### Reservations and tickets

To make a reservation to see this incredible display of creativity and acrobatics, scan the QR code which will take you directly to their website for a booking. To find more information about RCCA, please visit their Instagram page @rccaruba.



## Aruba to me

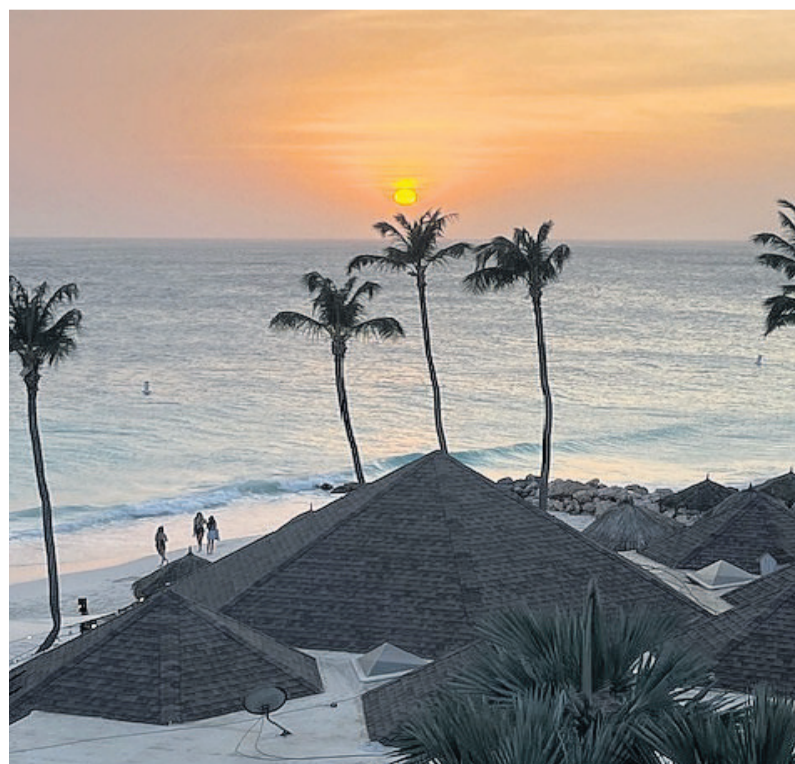
**ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.**

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is ..... Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation. Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page!

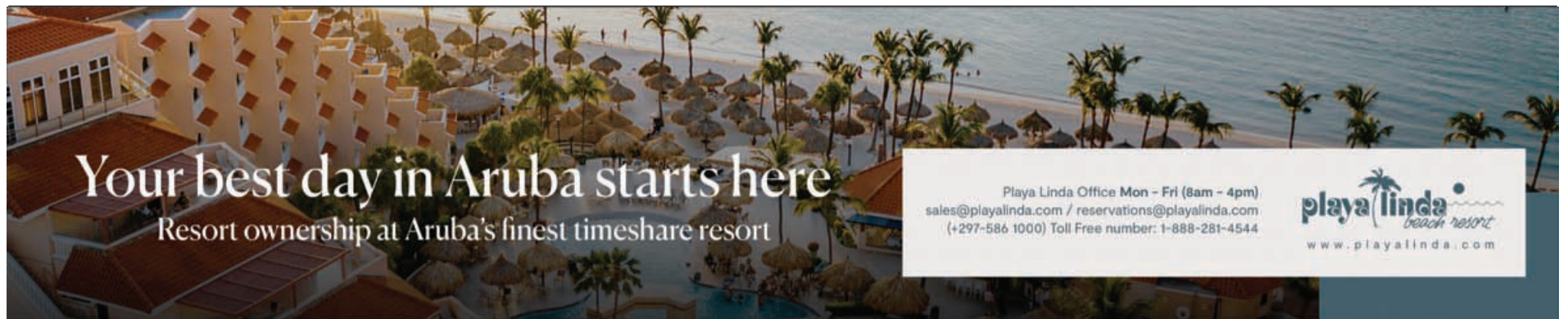
Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again. For today we received a lovely message from our awesome visitors Susi and Brian Toth.

He wrote to us saying: "Aruba to me is our home away from home. My husband's parents invested in CASA DEL MAR Resort over 30 years ago and we have had the enjoyable experience of travelling here several years now. Aruba to me is the peaceful morning waves, the friendships made and cherished memories that not only leave footprints in the sand but also in our hearts. Thank you Aruba!"

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers!







## The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors on the island.

Recently, Ms. Marouska Heyliger had the great pleasure to honor a Loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba at their home away from home.

The honorees:  
 Stephen Prizio as Goodwill Ambassador from Massachusetts  
 Margaret A Johnson as Emerald Ambassador from Massachusetts

The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20-35 and more consecutive years.

Ms. Marouska Heyliger thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years together with the members of Divi Aruba All inclusive

Top reason for returning provided by the honorees were:  
 Beautiful beaches, beautiful weather and safety of the island



## Alto Vista chapel and its link to Aruba's origins

According to Etnia Nativa, in the 18th century most of the inhabitants of Aruba were indigenous who lived on the north coast, one of the largest communities lived in Alto Vista.

As they were very religious, they had a chief with the name of Antonio Silvester who guided them in the Christian life and it was he who decided to build a stone chapel with a roof

of corn rods, which would serve as a place of prayer. In 1750 it was blessed by Father Algemesi who came from Coro-Venezuela and appointed Domingo Antonio Silvester as the island's first prosecutor in the name of the Spanish crown and Rome. In 1752 the prosecution passed into the hands of Antonio Silvester's son-in-law, Miguel Álvarez, who continued to guide the parishioners in their prayers.

According to the book, The History of Alto Vista by R.H. Nooyen, it is not known when Domingo Antonio Silvester came to Aruba from Venezuela. The elders believe Antonio was a Spaniard. In 1780, father Joseph Antonio de la Vegal called Bernardino Silvester, one of Antonio's sons with his wife Anna Cathalina Tromp, "neighbors and naturals of the island Aruba" and thus they became natives.

At the end of the eighteen century many inhabitants the island died as a result of the black fever epidemic and since people believed that the Alto Vista area was the most infected, they began to build their homes further south within the Noord area, so the town of Noord began to grow into a community till getting its own Church. However religious festivals continued to be celebrated at this sa-

cred native place, with the custom of arriving in procession to Alto Vista.

Two-hundred years after the beautiful time of Alto Vista, people can no longer see much of the town of Alto Vista from 1750. With a lot of work they found the old foundations of the Church of the Queen of the Holiest Rosary to build a new chapel on the same place. The entire surrounding area was empty and desolated, making it hard to imagine that Alto Vista was a town at all. A hundred years later, people can see the remains of around twenty houses, some made of stone and others of clay. Nowadays, only around six of these houses remain.

South of the chapel in the yard two graves can be observed, there was the cemetery which father Pablo de Algemesi blessed.

It is not certain, but it is believed that the two graves belong to Antonio Silvester and Miguel Alvares, according to Nooyen. About 50 meters near the chapel there are still the markings of an old house, where Antonio and Bernardino Silvester would have lived. About 200 meters from the chapel there is a water tank which the locals call Tanki Cacique. In the past this tank was closed. But mostly water was brought out from the Poz di Noord, a well dug in the sand.

The chapel can be viewed from basically any point in the north side, even from Paradera and Sero Plat. All the historical remains around the chapel provide us with an idea on how the old people of Alto Vista used to live. Don't miss the opportunity to visit a place of historical significance with a window to Aruba's past.



# Today is going to be a good day

**(Oranjestad)—Here's why: Aruba Today collected some things to do BEYOND the beach. Yes, we know. Aruba, located 15 miles north of Venezuela in the warm waters of the southern Caribbean, is home to beautiful white-sand beaches, 82-degree days, and thus ideal for the perfect beach day. But we are also blessed with some of the warmest people in the world and our island is 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across, with a total area of 70 square miles. Bit more to discover than the white stretch on the coastline we say. Let's mention some of these hidden gems.**

## Nature Calls



The Arikok National park is worth the ride. We love the hikes that are guided by the park's rangers whose job is to maintain trails and protect natural resources. The flora and fauna are beautiful and the historical sites tell you about the island's indigenous roots. The guided tours are even free of charge. If you are not up to walking, you can drive through the park, one way or another this park is a great place to spend an entire day. Cruising through the landscape you end up at some of the most stunning beaches like Dos Playa or Daimara Beach. In Total the park consists of 7907 acres protected nature with a richness of animals living in it. The Aruban whiptail lizard (cododo), Aruban cat eye snake (santanero) and endangered rattle snake (cascabel) are just some of them, you can also admire these close in the park's Visitors' Center. For more information, visit the website [www.arubanationalpark.org](http://www.arubanationalpark.org)

## Philip's Animal Garden



To stay with the animals, let's hop to an amazing place. Something different to do, an experience that is to be enjoyed by people of all ages. Welcome to Philip's Animal Garden. We are not talking about a zoo here, this is actually a sanctuary for all types of creatures, from

horses to peacocks, kangaroos to turtles, monkeys, goats, and many, many more different species. The place was founded in 2009 and it is the only organization rescuing and rehabilitating exotic animals in Aruba, which has resulted in an amazing collection of these animals. They provide a suitable living environment for all the rescued animals. Up until now the owner, Philip, has built this shelter with his own efforts; building all the cages from scratch, designing all structures and welding them with his own bare hands. His goal is to upgrade the facilities to a world-class animal shelter with veterinary care and round-the-clock staffs. With the input from the Aruban community and visitors they provide the best care for these animals. Please check out their website for more information: [www.philipsanimalgarden.com](http://www.philipsanimalgarden.com).

## The Lighthouse



No, you would not think of this as a hidden gem. The California Lighthouse is actually one of the most known highlights in Aruba and many repeated guests most probably took the ride uphill already. But, there is a significant change to this tower. Since September 2016 you can climb the top. In 2015 Stichting Monumentenfonds started the restoration of the California Lighthouse. The project finished in September 2016 and the Lighthouse is now open for visitors to enjoy the beautiful view from the top. The construction of the California Lighthouse started in 1915. The name 'California' came from a vessel of the West India Company and Pacific Steamship Co. called 'California' that shipwrecked in the area in 1891. Therefore they came up with the idea of building a lighthouse that could indicate the island's eastern tip to ships with its light. [www.arubalighthouse.com](http://www.arubalighthouse.com) will give you more information.

## Kayak in the Mangroves



Mangel Halto at Savaneta is definitely a place not to miss out on. The beautiful beach with the natural mangroves is simply a beauty, but if you

are into a more active way to enjoy the nature: take a kayak. While you are doing some workout -as it might get a little windy and rough-, you will see the island from a different perspective. You can even make a stop to do some snorkeling at the reef. Its fun, it's healthy and for sure something else. There are several companies that offer kayak tours, we had good experience with The Shack Kayak Tours Aruba, find them on Facebook.

## Take an "off-road" sightseeing tour



A must-do activity on the island is for sure taking an off-road sightseeing tour. If you have a rented car, you can drive through the north-eastern side of Aruba and explore the natural pools, caves, rock formations and gorgeous view of the Atlantic Ocean. To access most of these sights, like the natural pool (Conchi) and the Guadirikiri and Fontein caves, you must enter through the Arikok National Park and buy a day pass. Then you drive up the rugged road that leads you through the white dunes, caves and along the wind turbines. Other locations, like the Ayo and Casibari Rock formation are situated more in the center of the island, and are free for guests, 24 hours a day.

## Go for a shopping spree in the city center



Need a new bathing suit? Head to the city center of Oranjestad, where there is countless of different stores—both high end and more affordable—that can offer you the service you deserve! Local shopping stores often offer a more affordable price, and have a variety of clothes, shoes, bathing suites, purses and more. Along the Royal Plaza strip, there are numerous jewelry stores with great quality jewelry. In the Renaissance mall, you can shop high-end luxury brands, like Dolce & Gabbana, Kate Spade, Louis Vuitton and more.

Around the high-rise hotel area near Palm Beach, the Paseo Herencia Mall contain a variety of shopping stores, restaurants, small food stands and even a movie theater! ☐

# National Park Arikok: Aruba's biggest nature conservation

The National Park Arikok comprises almost 18 % of the island. Its rugged terrain, desert-like hills filled with tall cacti, breathtaking coastline and protected local flora and fauna welcome you to be explored. There are numerous animals to discover, for example the sea turtle who lays his eggs on the park's beaches.

The national park Arikok takes you on a memorable journey of the islands past offering unique geological, cultural and historical sites. These can all be enjoyed and explored either on your own or during guided tours. A wide variety of educational and informative programs and fun activities is available.

Did you know that four of the in total seven species of sea turtle lay their eggs on Aruba's beaches? In the national park, a Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*) keeps a strict eye on a very special event taking place below on the beach: a majestic Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) heads back to sea after laying her eggs, while another nest laid 2 months ago by the same female hatches—a very rare occurrence of daytime nesting and hatching. Sea turtles prefer nesting in the cool and dark hours of the night. And hatchlings usually wait for the cue of cooling surface sand before emerging.

## Nature Conservation

The protected area of National Park Arikok was officially established in 2000. Arikok National Park is a 34 square kilometers (7907 acres) of natural area, located at the north-eastern part of Aruba which contains examples of most of the island's flora and fauna against a backdrop of great geological complexity. We are proud to state that approximately 18% of the total land area of Aruba is assigned as a National Park, to protect and preserve the flora, fauna, geology and historical remains present within Arikok

National Park.

## The Landscape

There is a great geological variety within the park. The main aspects are the rough hills of the volcanic Aruba lava formation, the mysterious rocks of the batholithic quartz-diorite/tonalite, and the limestone rocks from fossilized coral. The two tallest hills on the island are situated within the park. Jamanota hill 188 meters (617 ft) and Arikok hill 176 meters (577 ft), from which the name of the park is derived.

The line of the permanently wind-and-wave beaten North Coast is broken by several bays (boca's). Most of them are small yet impressive inlets at the mouth of dry riverbeds. Some of these bays (boca's) are spectacular sights, adorned with white, sandy beaches and sand dunes, as is the case at Boca Prins and Dos Playa.

Arikok is also home to Conchi, Aruba's most important natural attraction; also known as The Natural Pool. The journey to the Pool is an adventure by itself and only possible by foot, horse, ATV or 4x4 vehicle.

## Cultural and Historical components

There are a number of sites within the park that attest



to the history of Aruba. The Caquetío Indians left rock paintings in Cunucu Arikok and Fontein Cave. The bird drawing in the park logo is a copy of one of these historical artistic expressions.

Old plantation (Cunucus) sites tell the story of an ac-



tive yet challenging agricultural past.

These Cunucus were also residential areas for the few families that worked the land. These families found ways to survive in the difficult conditions, and were able to erect their homes with materials found in the area. Two of these adobe houses have been restored. Park rangers are learning many of the old building techniques in order to preserve this unique Aruban mud-house. At Cunucu Arikok and near Plantation Prins you can find these adobe houses.

## Park Management

For the management of the park, a dedicated foundation "Fundacion Parke Nacional Arikok" (FPNA), known today as the Aruba National Park Foundation was established in July 2003. In February 2017, mangrove and wetland RAMSAR site #198 Spanish Lagoon was annexed to Arikok National Park due to its importance as a feeding and breeding area for water birds and as a nursery area for a variety of marine organisms. With this addition, the areas under FPNA management increased by 70 hectares while the amount of species of flora and fauna to be conserved to over 250. On December 21st, 2018 (AB 2018 no. 77) Parke Marino Aruba – currently consisting of four marine protected areas (MPAs) – was officially established and subsequently brought under management of FPNA. In 2019 management plans will be established for the new MPAs which include: coral reefs, sea grass beds, mangrove systems, a large diversity of breeding seabirds. Parke Marino Aruba also contains potential shark nursery areas, endangered sea turtle nesting beaches and marine mammal nursery areas. □



**CROSSWORD**

By **THOMAS JOSEPH**

**ACROSS** 41 Homes for  
1 Crow  
cries

5 Gives off  
10 Tennis  
legend  
Arthur

11 New York  
area east  
of SoHo

13 LummoX  
14 Game fish

15 Bony fish  
17 Hosp.  
sections

18 Foes  
19 Court  
concern

20 USN rank  
21 Wizard

22 Get to  
one's feet

25 Beer  
choice

26 Milk buy  
27 Slump

28 Finish  
29 Leafy  
green

33 Pi follower  
34 Voracious  
fish

35 Sport fish  
37 Work hard

38 Painter's  
motion

39 Writer  
Ferber

40 Fills  
completely

**DOWN**

1 Secret  
supply

2 Narnia  
lion

3 Com-  
plete

4 River  
bottom

5 Follows as  
a result

6 Castle  
surround-  
ers

7 Ailing  
8 Period  
from

8 Period  
from

9 Attic  
use

12 Solution  
16 Tie up

21 Tycoons  
22 Male  
gametes

23 Gls'  
helmets,  
in slang

24 Neighbor  
of Spain

25 Den  
bunch

27 Back-  
bones

29 Director  
Lee

30 Battery  
end

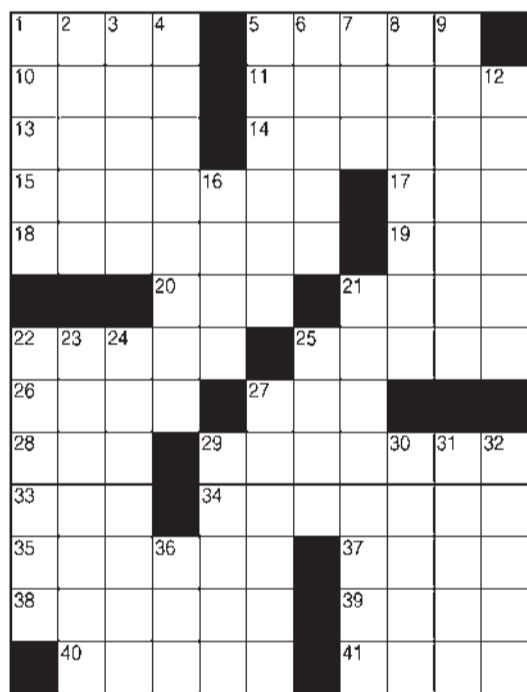
31 Good  
dishes

32 NFL  
pioneer  
George

36 Whole  
bunch



Saturday's answer



AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

3-25 **CRYPTOQUOTE**  
E Y G L J P X L H F L E X W F C D J Q

D T D S F J L J P . X W F H D G U W T L J Q E  
D G F X W F H I G J L J P B D T J .

— C F T L E P G L V D G Q  
Saturday's Cryptoquote: OUR LIFE IS MARCH WEATHER, SAVAGE AND SERENE IN ONE HOUR.  
— RALPH WALDO EMERSON

**Cruise ship Schedule: Mar 26 - Mar 30 2024**

|     |    |   |                |                |        |
|-----|----|---|----------------|----------------|--------|
| TUE | 26 | CARNIVAL VISTA                              | 13.00          | 23.00          | 1      |
| WED | 27 | CELEBRITY EQUINOX<br>SYMPHONY OF THE SEAS   | 10.00<br>08.00 | 23.59<br>21.00 | 1<br>1 |
| THU | 28 | SEVEN SEAS GRANDEUR<br>RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS | 09.00          | 22.00          | 1<br>1 |
| FRI | 29 | REGAL PRINCESS                              | 09.00          | 22.00          | 1      |
| SAT | 30 | AIDAPERLA<br>STAR CLIPPER                   | 08.00<br>10.00 | 18.00<br>19.00 | 1<br>1 |

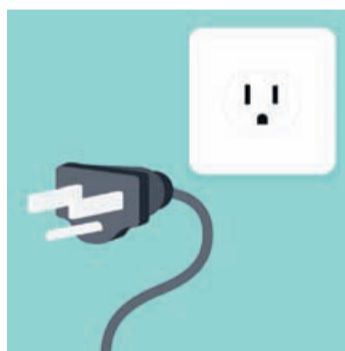
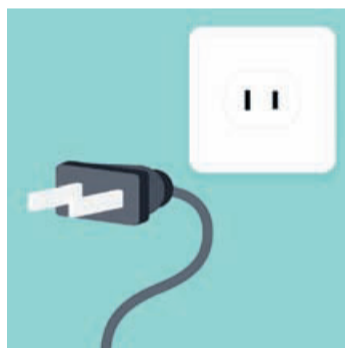
**Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba**

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic—but important—information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.



10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



**Electrical power**  
Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type



**Drinking water**  
The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

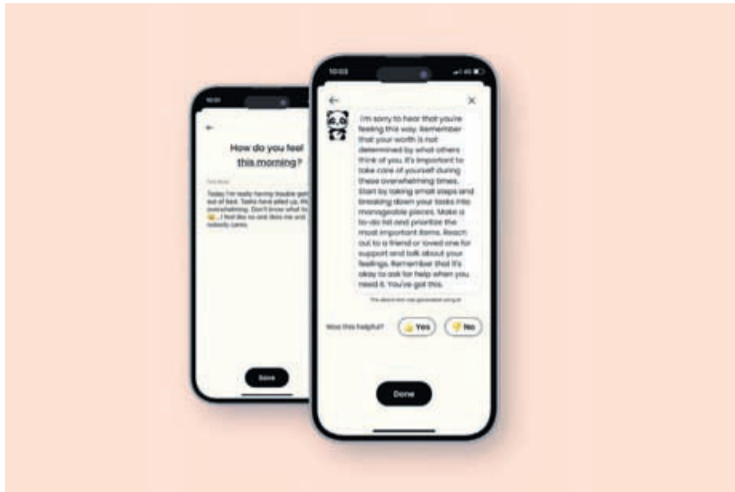


**Safety**  
Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

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# AI chatbots are here to help with your mental health, despite limited evidence they work



This image provided by Earkick in March 2024 shows the company's mental health chatbot on a smartphone.

Associated Press

By **MATTHEW PERRONE**  
AP Health Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Download the mental health chatbot Earkick and you're greeted by a bandana-wearing panda who could easily fit into a kids' cartoon.

Start talking or typing about anxiety and the app generates the kind of comforting, sympathetic statements therapists are trained to deliver. The panda might then suggest a guided breathing exercise, ways to reframe negative thoughts or stress-management tips.

It's all part of a well-established approach used by therapists, but please don't call it therapy, says Earkick co-founder Karin Andrea Stephan.

"When people call us a form of therapy, that's OK, but we don't want to go out there and tout it," says Stephan,

a former professional musician and self-described serial entrepreneur. "We just don't feel comfortable with that." The question of whether these artificial intelligence-based chatbots are delivering a mental health service or are simply a new form of self-help is critical to the emerging digital health industry — and its survival. Earkick is one of hundreds of free apps that are being pitched to address a crisis in mental health among teens and young adults. Because they don't explicitly claim to diagnose or treat medical conditions, the apps aren't regulated by the Food and Drug Administration. This hands-off approach is coming under new scrutiny with the startling advances of chatbots powered by generative AI, technology that uses vast amounts of data

to mimic human language. The industry argument is simple: Chatbots are free, available 24/7 and don't come with the stigma that keeps some people away from therapy.

But there's limited data that they actually improve mental health. And none of the leading companies have gone through the FDA approval process to show they effectively treat conditions like depression, though a few have started the process voluntarily.

"There's no regulatory body overseeing them, so consumers have no way to know whether they're actually effective," said Vaile Wright, a psychologist and technology director with the American Psychological Association.

Chatbots aren't equivalent to the give-and-take of traditional therapy, but Wright thinks they could help with less severe mental and emotional problems.

Earkick's website states that the app does not "provide any form of medical care, medical opinion, diagnosis or treatment." Some health lawyers say such disclaimers aren't enough.

"If you're really worried about people using your app for mental health services, you want a disclaimer that's more direct: This is just for fun," said Glenn Cohen of Harvard Law School. □



### Marriott Aruba Surf Club PLATINUM SEASON

- 2 Bed Oceanfront \$35,000
- 2 Bed Oceanside \$19,000
- 2 Bed Ocean view \$22,000
- 2 Bed Garden view \$15,000
- 3 Bed Ocean view \$30,000
- WK 51 Ocean view \$65,000
- WK 52 Ocean View \$65,000
- WK 7 and 14 - all views

### GOLD SEASON

- 2 Bed Oceanfront \$18,000
- 2 Bed Oceanside \$9,750
- 2 Bed Ocean view \$9,000
- 2 Bed Garden view \$7,000
- 3 Bed Ocean view \$16,500

### Marriott Aruba Ocean Club PLATINUM SEASON

- 2 Bed Oceanfront \$36,000
  - 2 Bed Ocean view \$27,000
  - 1 Bed Ocean front \$22,000
  - 1 Bed Ocean View \$17,500
- ### GOLD SEASON
- 2 Bed Oceanfront \$18,000
  - 2 Bed Ocean view \$10,000
  - 1 Bed oceanfront \$11,000
  - 1 Bed ocean View \$7,500

\*\* Destination Points \$5.00 per point

### La Cabana Beach Resort

- 1 Bed wk 39 \$4,500

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#### San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours  
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### PHARMACY ON DUTY

#### Oranjestad:

Eagle : Tel. 587 9011

San Nicolas:

San Lucas: Tel. 584 5119

### OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850

Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002

Urgent Care 586 0448

Walk-In Doctor's Clinic

+297 588 0539

### EMERGENCY

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| Police         | 100      |
| Oranjestad     | 527 3140 |
| Noord          | 527 3200 |
| Sta. Cruz      | 527 2900 |
| San Nicolas    | 584 5000 |
| Police Tipline | 11141    |
| Ambulancia     | 911      |
| Fire Dept.     | 115      |
| Red Cross      | 582 2219 |

### TAXI SERVICES

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| Taxi Tas         | 587 5900 |
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**Peter Malnati reacts after putting out on the second hole during the final round of the Valspar Championship golf tournament Sunday, March 24, 2024, at Innisbrook in Palm Harbor, Fla.**  
Associated Press

**PALM HARBOR, Fla. (AP)** — Peter Malnati got a great break with the tournament on the line and followed that with an even better shot, making a late birdie on his way to a 4-under 67 to win the Valspar Championship on Sunday and earn his first trip to the Masters. Malnati tapped in that yellow golf ball for par on the final hole for only his second PGA Tour victory. He won by two over Cameron Young, who made it easier on him by taking bogey on the final hole for a 68. Young now has seven runner-up finishes without a win. On a wild day of rallies and

meltdowns, it came down to Malnati and Young playing a group apart as they headed into the tough finishing stretch at Innisbrook known as the "Snake Pit." Malnati's approach on the 16th went long and left into gnarly rough some 50 feet from the pin, leaving him a tough chip to try to save par and stay tied. But his foot was on a sprinkler head, which entitled him to a free drop. With the extra club length, he was able to drop it on the fringe and use putter, which he sent down to short range for par. On the par-3 17th into wind, Malnati hit a laser to

6 feet and made birdie to take the lead. Up ahead, Young hit his drive well left and did well to hammer a gap wedge over the trees and onto the green, 50 feet away. He lagged it about 10 feet short and missed the par putt. Malnati found a fairway bunker on the 18th, but hit that on the green for a simple two-putt to finish at 12-under 272, his first victory since the Sanderson Farms Championship in 2015. More than the \$1,512,000 from winning, Malnati goes to the Masters for the first time and gets a two-year exemption. He also is assured of getting into the

## Malnati with big break and great shot wins Valspar and earns trip to Masters

remaining four \$20 million signature events without any help. Malnati is one of six player-directors on the PGA Tour board, and he was singled out for criticism when he received a sponsor exemption — along with two other board members — to the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am. "I told myself to do my best on every shot," Malnati said as he fought back tears. "I was so nervous coming down the stretch. I can't describe it. It's so cool." It was gut-wrenching for Young, one of the top young talents and power players in golf who can't seem to get across the line. He shot 31 on the back nine at St. Andrews in the 2022 British Open, only to finish one shot behind Cameron Smith, who shot 30. Young also was in the hunt until the 16th hole of the 2022 PGA Championship. "It was just a bad time for a pull," Young said of his tee shot on the 18th. Mackenzie Hughes of Canada (70) and PGA Tour rookie Chandler Phillips (69) tied for third. They were among five players who had at least a share of the lead in the final round

at Innisbrook. Hughes had the lead on the back nine with a 45-foot birdie putt on the 10th hole. He was tied and in the middle of the 12th fairway when it began to fall apart. His approach went over the green and into the back slope of the bunker, leaving him no shot to a back pin. He fell two shots behind when Malnati made a 15-foot birdie. On the par-3 13th, Hughes came up short and in the water and he was never seriously part of the mix the rest of the way. Keith Mitchell started the day with a two-shot lead, and he was three behind at the turn. Mitchell had to pitch out of the trees three times on the opening six holes and did not have a hole under par until an eagle on the 14th. By then he was 8 over for his round. He shot 77, Seamus Power, playing in the final group, shot 76. Malnati is No. 184 in the world ranking, making him the fifth player to win full PGA Tour events this year. His only other win in the fall of 2015 did not come with an automatic invitation to the Masters. Fall events started getting invitations the next year. □

## Factions in MLB players' union fight issue critical statements aimed at each other

By **RONALD BLUM**  
AP Baseball Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Baseball players' union head Tony Clark made his first public response to an effort aimed at ousting his chief negotiator, calling it a secret campaign with an outside agenda. Clark issued a statement Sunday in response to a statement by Harry Marino, a former union official who hopes players will remove Major League Baseball Players Association deputy director Bruce Meyer, the union's chief negotiator of the 2022 collective bar-

gaining agreement. Marino, a former minor leaguer who headed successful efforts to unionize players with minor league contracts, claimed union members are being bullied and retaliated against for expressing their opinions for change. "For decades, the bedrock of the MLBPA has been an engaged membership that does not bend to outside agendas," Clark said in a statement. "It therefore comes as no surprise that a coordinated and covert effort to challenge this foundation has troubled players

at all levels of professional baseball." After minor leaguers joined the union, it restructured its executive board to include 38 players with major league contracts and 34 with minor league contracts. The executive board makes decisions by majority vote, such as hiring the executive director, and the staff reports to the executive director. "How hard the players are willing to fight for the changes they want is a decision for the players," Marino said. "As a former minor league player who played a key role in bringing 5,500



**Major League Baseball Players Association Executive Director Tony Clark, right, answers a question at a news conference in their offices in New York, Friday, March 11, 2022, as Bruce Meyer, Senior Director, Collective Bargaining & Legal, sits at left.**  
Associated Press

new members to the union, I will never turn down a request for assistance from any group of major league or minor league players.

My sole aim is to serve the players and I will continue to make myself available to do so in whatever way I am asked." □

# T.J. Oshie returns to the Capitals' lineup and is honored for playing in 1,000 NHL games

By **STEPHEN WHYNO**  
AP Hockey Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — T.J. Oshie returned to the Washington Capitals' lineup Sunday, getting back just in time for the ceremony honoring his milestone of playing in 1,000 NHL games.

And, more importantly, at a crucial juncture of the season, with his team trying desperately to make the playoffs. Oshie had two assists in a 3-0 victory over Winnipeg that pushed Washington back into a playoff position.

"We found a way to get the job done," Oshie said. "That was my message to them before the game is how much I absolutely appreciate all this stuff, but we need to get a win, that is focus No. 1."

Oshie was back after missing the past two games because of injury. The 37-year-old winger has been out off and on in recent months dealing with nagging back problems that have threatened to derail his career.

"I know he's had a lot of injuries, but he's a big part of, especially their success when they won the Cup," said Jets assistant Scott Arniel, who was on staff with Washington for four seasons coaching Oshie. "He's an unbelievable professional to work with, a first-class person, first-class father, teammate, all that stuff."

Especially with Tom Wilson serving a six-game suspension, the Capitals could use a healthy Oshie down the stretch. Their next game Tuesday at home against Detroit is pivotal in the Eastern Conference play-off race, chasing the Red Wings for a wild-card spot. "I find even of late, we're missing a little bit of his poise with the puck, his veteran presence on the ice when things get a little bit scambly," coach Spencer Carbery said Sunday before the game. "He can calm things down because he can find a way out of a situation with a lot of poise and calmness. ... He handles those situations as



Washington Capitals right wing T.J. Oshie waves as he acknowledges the crowd as teammates, from left to right, left wing Alex Ovechkin, defenseman John Carlson and center Nicklas Backstrom applaud during a ceremony to mark Oshie's playing in 1000 career NHL games before an NHL hockey game against the Winnipeg Jets, Sunday, March 24, 2024, in Washington.

Associated Press

good as anybody I've been around with his poise."

Capitals players wore No. 77 jerseys during pregame warmups that will be autographed and auctioned, with proceeds going to the Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation. Oshie's dad, Tim, died of the disease, which he was struggling with when father and son shared an emotional moment on the ice in Las Vegas when Washington won the Stanley Cup in 2018.

Oshie is in his ninth season with the Capitals after playing his first seven with the St. Louis Blues. The Warroad, Minnesota, native played in his 1,000th regular-season game on March 16 at Vancouver. □



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Calamari or the mouthwatering creamy Garlic Tarragon Shrimp. You can also opt for a classic French Onion Soup, a Lobster Bisque or the famously Water's Edge House Wedge, a crisp wedge of fresh romaine lettuce topped with homemade blue cheese dressing, diced tomatoes, chopped bacon, caramelized pecans and blue cheese crumbles, drizzled with balsamic reduction. This followed by the Chef's special of seafood such as Fresh salmon filet seasoned and grilled, topped with lemon cilantro butter and served with homemade mashed potatoes and fresh asparagus, a nice plate of Ahi Tuna or a succulent pasta dish like the Florentina Fettuccine Alfredo. Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of a devourable 22oz. Bone-In "Tomahawk" Rib-Eye, pan seared in garlic infused oil and finished in the oven or our juicy N.Y Strip Loin, seasoned & grilled. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi glace, mushroom sauce, or bacon blue cheese butter. For extra sides the options are delectable. Fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wine from the great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests. To end the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness, the desserts are wild. From a piece of coconut flan, NY cheese cake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with choco-



late sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.

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Just about every day of the week, there is a different live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. Whether you're in a romantic mood, or more in a swinging mood, there is absolutely a night especially for you where you can combine great music with delicious cocktails mixed with concoctions. In addition, Water's Edge offers three daily Happy Hours from 12pm-1pm, 4pm-6pm and again from 9pm-10pm with all premium brands specially priced.

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### Thank you to all our guests

From the bottom of our hearts, we would like to Thank all of our guests who showed us so much love and support all throughout the year, and hopefully will continue to do so in the years to come. What we are most grateful for is that we could get back to doing what we love, which is looking after our guests. So, thank you for every dinner, lunch, breakfast, every to-go order, every glass of wine, every birthday, anniversary and date-night that you spent with us this last year. To our new guests, Welcome! We hope you to see you back soon! ☐



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